



MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY  
Los Angeles River Center and Gardens  
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**MINUTES  
of the  
GOVERNING BOARD  
of the  
MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

**February 1, 2006**

**I. Call to Order.**

The regular meeting of the Governing Board of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority was called to order by Chairperson Michael Berger, at 3:04 p.m. on February 1, 2006 at the Conejo Recreation and Park District, 403 West Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks.

**II. Roll Call.**

The roll was called and the following members were present: Ed Hayduk, Jerome C. Daniel, George Lange, Vice Chair, and Michael Berger, Chair. Quorum present.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer; Rorie Skei, Deputy Executive Officer; Walt Young, Chief Ranger and Chief of Operations; Paul Edelman, Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Jeff Maloney, Staff Counsel; James Latham, Ranger, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

**III. Approval of Minutes.**

The minutes of January 11, 2006 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of January 11, 2006 were adopted as submitted.

**IV. Public testimony on all agenda items and public comment on matters not on the agenda.**

This item was postponed to occur concurrently with item VII.

**V. Reports from Staff:**

- (a) Legal;
- (b) Ranger Services;
- (c) Natural Resources and Planning;
- (d) Interpretation;
- (e) Developed Resources;

- (f) **Construction;**
- (g) **Facilities and Maintenance;**
- (h) **Finance.**

This item was postponed to later in the meeting.

**VI. Consent Calendar:**

- (a) **Consideration of resolution authorizing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority warrant disbursement for December 1, 2005 to January 25, 2006.**
- (b) **Consideration of resolution assigning rights to the City of Maywood to apply to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for First Supervisorial District Proposition A Excess funds for the Maywood Riverfront Park Project.**
- (c) **Consideration of resolution assigning rights to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works to apply to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for First Supervisorial District Proposition A Excess funds for the Bell Riverfront Project.**
- (d) **Consideration of resolution assigning rights to Amigos de los Rios to apply to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for First Supervisorial District Proposition A Excess funds for the Rio Hondo River Park Project.**
- (e) **Consideration of resolution assigning rights to the Amigos de los Rios to apply to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for First Supervisorial District Proposition A Excess funds for the Rio Vista Native Plant Garden Entrance Project.**
- (f) **Consideration of resolution accepting the following offers to dedicate trail easements: Whittaker / P5-83-663A and Krings / P5-85-40, Malibu.**
- (g) **Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a conservation easement over approximately 28 acres and management funding from City of Santa Clarita, as mitigation required by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Section 404 Permit No. 200301262-JLB) for the Cross Valley Connector Gap Closure Project, Upper Bee Canyon, adjacent to State Highway 14.**

- (h) **Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of an offer to dedicate fee title over the approximately 72-acre Little Las Flores Conservation property (APN 4448-007-053, 054, 055, and 056), or a conservation easement over said property, Little Las Flores Canyon watershed, pursuant to Pepperdine University Graduate Campus Project Conditional Use Permit No. 97-191-(3), unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (i) **Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of funding to acquire resource property in the Santa Monica Mountains pursuant to Pepperdine University Graduate Campus Project Conditional Use Permit No. 97-191-(3), unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (j) **Consideration of resolution extending the term of Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority contract No. 246/03 with Resources Law Group, LLP.**
- (k) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to Ventura County regarding proposed amendments to fuel modification ordinance.**
- (l) **Consideration of resolution authorizing the granting of a temporary grading easement (offsite grading covenant) for slope remediation along the northern boundary of Tract Map No. 53138 to Presidio Chatsworth Partners, LLC, unincorporated Chatsworth.**
- (m) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a drain and road easement to the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works on Piuma Road, Culvert Marker 2.81, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (n) **Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a contract with the City of Los Angeles for design service for Ascot Hills Park.**
- (o) **Consideration of resolution authorizing application for the State Water Resources Control Board 2005-2006 Consolidated Grants Program.**
- (p) **Consideration of resolution ratifying the acceptance of a donation of approximately 2.5 acres of land located at 3587 Woodhill Canyon Road, directly adjacent to Wilacre Park in Studio City (APN 2376-014-011) and a cash donation for brush clearance.**

The Chair announced that items VI(j) would be removed from the Consent Calender.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 06-12, 06-13, 06-14, 06-15, 06-16, 06-17, 06-18, 06-19, 06-20, 06-22, 06-23, 06-24, 06-25, 06-26, and 06-27 were unanimously adopted.

**VI(j). Consideration of resolution extending the term of Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority contract No. 246/03 with Resources Law Group, LLP.**

The staff report for this item was presented by the Executive Officer.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, Resolution No. 06-21 was unanimously adopted.

**VII. Public Comment and Discussion of off-leash dog policy at Westridge-Canyonback Wilderness Park.**

Comments were made by the Deputy Executive Officer.

The following members of public addressed the Authority:

Mr. Brad Rosenberg, member of the public.  
Ms. Laurie Stevens, member of the public.  
Ms. Esther Meyers, member of the public.  
Mr. Fred Kahn, member of the public.  
Mr. David Abramowitz, member of the public.  
Ms. Monica Fiello, member of the public.  
Mr. Nathan Foulger, member of the public.  
Ms. Cathy Ebert, member of the public.  
Ms. Nancy Rosenberg, member of the public.  
Mr. Ardy Kiarash, member of the public

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel and the Chair.

Comments were made by Mr. Kiarash, Mr. Kahn, and Foulger.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief Ranger and Chief of Operations.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Lange.

Comments were made by the Chief Ranger and Chief of Operations.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by Ranger James Latham.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief Ranger and Chief of Operations.

Comments were made by the Chair, the Executive Officer, and Messrs. Hayduk, Daniel, and Lange.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief Ranger and Chief of Operations.

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Daniel and Lange.

Comments were made by the Chief Ranger and Chief of Operations.

**VIII. Consideration of resolution regarding acceptance of dedications and easements within the boundaries of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area pursuant to an entitlement issued under a State regulatory program certified in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act.**

Comments were made by the Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, Resolution No. 06-28 was unanimously adopted.

**IX. Consideration of resolution adopting an updated Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority appraisal policy for acquisitions by sale or donation.**

The staff report for this item was presented by the Executive Officer.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Executive Officer.

Questions were propounded by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

Comments were made by Staff Counsel.

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, Resolution No. 06-29 was unanimously adopted.

The Chair announced that item V would be heard next.

**V. Reports from Staff:**

- (a) Legal;
- (b) Ranger Services;
- (c) Natural Resources and Planning;
- (d) Interpretation;
- (e) Developed Resources;
- (f) Construction;
- (g) Facilities and Maintenance;
- (h) Finance.

The Authority received a verbal report from the Executive Director and the Chief Ranger and Chief of Operations.

**X. Statements, questions, and directions to staff pursuant to Section 54954.2 of the Government Code.**

No comments were made.

**XI. Closed Session.**

**The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority may hold a closed session on the following items pursuant to Government Code §§ 54956.8 and 54956.9. Confidential memoranda related to these items may be considered during such closed session discussions. Conference with legal counsel. Number of cases: 1. *Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.***

No closed session was held.

**XII. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.**

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on February 17, 2006.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 4:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP  
Executive Officer

Michael Berger  
Chair